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QUARTERLY JOURNAL

OF THE

STATISTICAL SOCIETY.

JUNE, 1857.

Twenty-Third Anniversary Meeting of the Statistical Society.
Session 1856-57.

[Held at No. 12, St. James's Square, London, Monday, 16th March, 1857.]

THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF HARROWBY *in the Chair.*

THE Circular convening the Meeting having been read;—Dr. Guy, one of the Honorary Secretaries, read the following Report of the Council on the progress of the Society during the past twelve months:—

Report of the Council.

The Council of the Statistical Society have again the satisfaction of presenting a favourable report of the state and prospects of the Society. Though unable to announce so considerable an addition to the number of its Members as occurred during the year 1855-6, they are happy to state that the number of new Members has more than supplied the losses sustained by deaths and resignations. The Society consists, at present, of 384 Members, of whom 312 are annual subscribers, and 72 have compounded for their subscriptions.

The Income during the past year (1856) was 840*l.*, and as the Expenditure amounted to 816*l.*, there is a slight augmentation in the balance standing to the credit of the Society at the end of the year. There has been an increase in that part of the income of the Society which is derived from Subscriptions; and a considerable saving effected in the expenditure of the Society, which fell short, by 116*l.*, of the outlay of the year (1855) preceding. This difference in favour of the Society has been brought about by the complete liquidation, during 1855, of the liabilities for the *Journal* incurred in former years; and also, in part, by the cessation of the somewhat heavy expenses contracted in 1855 on behalf of the Library, and in the completion of the Catalogue.

The Council advert, with much satisfaction, to the progressive decrease in the Society's liabilities on account of the *Journal* during the last five years. In the year 1853 the liabilities of the Society, under this head, amounted to 460*l.*, and stood at 393*l.* in 1854; they were reduced to 331*l.* in 1855, and in 1856 to the sum of 266*l.*, which sums may be regarded as the Society's ordinary expenditure under this head; so that in the short space of four years the Society's debt for the *Journal* has been reduced, as nearly as possible, by 200*l.*

The arrears of former years having been thus completely discharged, and the expenses on account of the *Journal* having been liquidated as they arose, the Society has now no liability under this head. The expenditure for the past year included a sum of 51*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.* expended on account of the Committee on Beneficent Institutions, to whose operations the Council will presently advert at greater length.

The Liabilities, which, on 31st December, 1855, were 166*l.*, have been reduced, on 31st December, 1856, to 156*l.*; and this sum, small as it is, includes a cheque not presented for 37*l.* 10*s.*, and a charge for printing the *Journal* for December, 1856, for which the account could not be received till after the beginning of the present year. At the present moment these moderate liabilities have all been met, and the finances of the Society may be pronounced to be in an unusually sound and satisfactory condition.

The Council have nothing special to report with reference to the Library, which continues to receive considerable additions from the hands of its friends both at home and abroad. The principal donors have been the India Board, Dr. Farr, Mr. Oswald, Dr. Berg, M. van Baumhauer, and Baron von Czoernig.

The Council announce with regret the loss sustained by the Society in the deaths of the Hon. W. Leslie-Melville, a Director of the East India Company; and of Mr. Brent, well known to many Members of the Society by the extensive and accurate knowledge he possessed of facts bearing on the growth and development of the human frame.

The Papers read at the Ordinary Meetings of the Society during the past year have been, for the most part, upon subjects interesting to the public at the time. Mr. Hodge followed up his valuable paper "On the Mortality arising from Naval Operations," by a similar communication "On the Mortality arising from Military Operations." A Paper was presented by Dr. Fenwick, of Tynemouth, "On the Effects of Over-crowding and Want of Ventilation on Cholera;" and by Dr. Guy, "On the Duration of Life among Lawyers." These Papers illustrated the subject of Vital Statistics. In the subdivision of Economical Statistics the Society had the advantage of a paper "On the Bank of England: its present Constitution and Operations," by Mr. Jellicoe;—"On the loss sustained by Government in granting Annuities," by Mr. Hendriks;—and "On the Banking Establishment in Brussels, termed *L'Union du Credit de Bruxelles*," by Mr. Lumley. Under the head of Criminal Statistics the Rev. John Clay communicated a Paper "On the Connection between Crime, Popular Education, Attendance on Religious Worship, and Beer-houses."

At the Meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, held in August last (1856) at Cheltenham, the proceedings of Section F, in which this Society is more directly interested, were of a highly efficient and satisfactory character; and the Council refer with pleasure to the change in the title of that Section, which, after full deliberation, received the sanction of the Association. In lieu of the single title of Statistics, which the section formerly bore, the more comprehensive title of "Economic Science and Statistics" has

been substituted. A change of this nature carried into effect by such a body as the British Association, may be fairly considered to indicate, not merely the growth of a sound appreciation of the value of statistical investigations, but still more the development of views tending to place statistics in their true relation to the great branches of inquiry which deal with social questions. The Society will hear with pleasure that Lord Stanley, who presided with so much ability over this section of the Association last August, has consented to be put in nomination for the office of President of this Society, from which Lord Harrowby retires after two years' valuable service.

The Society is also indebted to Mr. Lumley, one of the Honorary Secretaries, for a "Report of the Proceedings of the Congrès de Bienfaisance, held at Brussels in September, 1856;" to which Congress Dr. Farr and the author of the report were appointed by the Council as delegates from the Society.

The Fellows of the Society will recollect that the Committee on Beneficent Institutions, appointed by the Council on the 4th of January, 1856, arose out of the first proceedings of this Congress. This Committee has given great attention to the work which it took in hand, and has already collected materials far exceeding in amount those which it had believed it possible to bring together. It is prosecuting its inquiries on an uniform system, and has already presented to the Council the first results of its inquiries in the form of "A Report on the Medical Charities of the Metropolis;" the substance of which was read before the Ordinary Meeting in December last. The Society has already been made acquainted with the first steps taken by the Committee, and the plan which they proposed to adopt. The Committee informs the Council that it hopes soon to present a second Report, embracing the Reformatory Institutions of the Metropolis.

The Society will be happy to hear that Statistical Science continues to be held in general estimation, as is shown by the proposed repetition of the International Statistical Congress. The Congress for the present year (1857) is to meet at Vienna, and the Council trust that they will be able to make arrangements for the worthy representation of England on that occasion. The Council have heard with pleasure that the English Government did intimate their readiness to make arrangements for holding a Statistical Congress this year in London; but though Vienna has been selected as the place of meeting for the present year, the Council feel that the Society will agree with them in the wish that the intentions of the English Government may yet be carried into effect.

The Council have reason to believe that the good offices of Lord Harrowby, the President of this Society, have not been wanting to the bringing about of a resolution so creditable to the Government.

Mr. Newmarch, another of the Honorary Secretaries, then read the abstract of Receipts and Payments, and the Balance Sheet of Assets and Liabilities.

Mr. Robert Hunt, F.R.S., moved the adoption of the Report, and of the Abstract of Receipts and Payments, and of the Balance Sheet of Assets and Liabilities.

Lieut.-General Monteith seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A Ballot was then taken for the President, Council, and Officers, for the year ensuing, and the following was declared to be the list:—

President.

Lord Stanley, M.P.

Council.

Charles Babbage, M.A., F.R.S.

James Bird, M.D.

Sir John Peter Boileau, Bart., F.R.S.

William Farr, M.D., F.R.S.

*The Right Hon. Wm. Ewart Gladstone, M.P.

James William Gilbert, F.R.S.

William Augustus Guy, M.B.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Harrowby

*Bernard Hebeler

Frederick Hendriks

James Heywood, M.P., F.R.S.

William Barwick Hodge

*Robert Hunt, F.R.S.

Thomas Hodgkin, M.D.

Charles Jellicoe

William Golden Lumley, B.C.L.

The Right Hon. Holt Mackenzie, F.G.S.

Herman Merivale

*Richard Monckton Milnes, M.P.

William Newmarch

William Drummond Oswald

The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Oxford, F.R.S.

The Right Hon. Sir John Somerset Pakington, Bart., M.P.

*George Henry Pinckard

Robert Aglionby Slaney M.P.

Lord Stanley, M.P.

Colonel W. H. Sykes, M.P., F.R.S.

*John Ingram Travers

Thomas Tooke, F.R.S.

John William Tottier,

Lord Harry George Vane, M.P.

** Those marked thus are New Members.*

Treasurer.

William Farr, M.D., F.R.S.

Honorary Secretaries.

William Augustus Guy, M.B.

William Newmarch

William Golden Lumley

Mr. Pinckard moved, and Mr. Clirehugh seconded, a vote of thanks to the retiring President, Council, and Officers, which was carried unanimously.

Lord Stanley, in moving a vote of thanks to the Earl of Harrowby, the Chairman and retiring President, observed that it might, perhaps, be said that the Society, having existed for so long a time, ought to have made more progress than it had made. But the truth really was that the Society *had* made great progress in enlightening the public mind on social questions. The attention of public men had been directed to statistics, and they were now beginning to see their true value. The Government had also of late years attached additional importance to statistics, and a great amount of work was now done by the different Government departments, which once would have been a subject for the labours of the Society. The *Journal* of the Society, which is now in the twentieth year of its existence, contains a vast amount of statistical information, and may be called an Encyclopædia of Statistics. For himself, if he had occasion for any statistical information, he could always either find it in the *Journal*, or at least could find references to authentic documents bearing on the point in question. He thought that the thanks of the Society were especially due to the Noble Earl for the very able manner in which he had presided over them for the last two years.

The resolution was seconded by Sir John Somerset Pakington, M.P., and carried unanimously.

Abstract of RECEIPTS and PAYMENTS for the Year ended the 31st of DECEMBER, 1856.

RECEIPTS.		PAYMENTS.	
£	d.	£	d.
Balance brought forward (after deducting debit balance of Petty Cash)			
31	13 5	Rent (3 quarters)	112 10 0
Arrears 7 Subscriptions, at 2 guineas	14 14 0	Salaries	180 0 0
Subscriptions for 1856—305 at 2 guineas	640 10 0	Journal { Printing £242 1 10	
Compositions—3 at 20 guineas	63 0 0	{ Advertising 19 8 6	
Dividends	25 3 4	{ Compiling Index 4 4 0	
Journal Sales (including Index Sales, £2 5s.)	9 5 6	Library	265 14 4
Institute of Actuaries (Rent)	75 0 0	Stationery and Printing	23 1 8
Ditto (Share of House Expenses)	11 8 0	Postage and Receipt Stamps	36 18 10
Sundries	0 16 0	Ordinary Meetings	7 14 2
		Lighting	18 13 4
		Office Furniture and Repairs	10 0 9
		Miscellaneous	93 16 5
		Committee on Beneficent Institutions	16 10 1
		Balance carried forward (after deducting debit balance of Petty Cash)	51 5 6
			55 5 2
			<u>£871 10 3</u>

Balance Sheet of ASSETS and LIABILITIES on the 31st of DECEMBER, 1856.

ASSETS.		LIABILITIES.	
£	d.	£	d.
Cash Balance in Bank (after deducting debit balance of Petty Cash)			
55	5 2	Printing of Journal for December, 1856	55 11 0
Stock, New 3 per Cents., £589 17s. 0d., const	567 0 0	Stationery and Printing	33 7 9
Stock, 3 per Cent. Consols, £328 15s. 4d., "	300 0 0	Firing and Lighting	10 16 0
Office Furniture, Fixtures, &c., (exclusive of Library)	100 0 0	Index and Catalogue	6 14 0
Arrears, 17 for 1856, at £2 2s.	37 16 0	Miscellaneous	11 18 11
Parker and Son, Journal Sales for 1856	53 7 0	Rent (Cheque not presented)	37 10 0
		Balance in favour of Society	957 10 6
			<u>£1,113 8 2</u>
		Examined and approved—	
		{ JOHN WM. TOTTIE, } Auditors.	
		{ EDWARD CHESHIRE, }	
		(Signed) { W. P. CLIREHUGH, }	
		12, ST. JAMES'S SQUARE, LONDON,	
		31st January, 1857.	